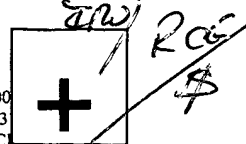




10-02-06



PTO/SB/30 (5/2000)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/626,602
Filing Date	July 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	W.P. Santamore et al.
Group Art Unit	3762
Examiner Name	Kahelin, Michael William
Attorney Docket Number	42359-0009

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. s 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 20000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed:
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment and Response to Office Action of April 17, 2006 (9 pgs.)
- ii. ☐ Declarations/Affidavits
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) With Form PTO-1449 and 149 references
- iv. ☒ Other: Return Receipt Postcard

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees of **\$1,810.00**, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **08-1641** (Docket No. 42349-0014)
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) (\$790.00)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) for three (3) months - Charge fee of \$1,020.00
- iii. ☐ Other:
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

10/03/2006 CREGA1 08000005 081641 10626602  
01 FC:1001 790.00 DA  
02 FC:1253 1020.00 DA

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	James A. Fox	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,455
Signature		Date	September 27, 2006

## CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated below and addressed to: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on this date September 29, 2006

Name (Print/Type)	Sylvia Rogers	Date:	September 29, 2006
Signature		Express Mail Label:	EV 765 976 672 US

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S.

